

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**CIVIL ACTION NO.: 04-12317WGY**

AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION,  
Plaintiff,

v.

J.L.B. CONSTRUCTION, INC., 21<sup>ST</sup>  
CAPITAL CORPORATION, PRIME  
COMMUNICATIONS, LLC, AMF  
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, INC.,  
HEINZ CORPORATION, DANIEL  
WENESS CONSTRUCTION,  
WESTERN STATES TOWER, LLC,  
WEST CENTRAL CONSULTING  
SERVICES, INC., STEWART  
ELECTRIC, INC., GLOBAL TOWER  
SERVICE, ADVANCED LIGHTNING  
TECHNOLOGY, INC. and GULF  
COAST STEEPLEJACK,  
Defendants.

**REPLY OF AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION TO  
DEFENDANT PRIME COMMUNICATIONS, LLC'S COUNTERCLAIM**

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NOW COMES the Plaintiff/Defendant-in-Counterclaim American Tower Corporation (the "Defendant-in-Counterclaim" or "ATC") and hereby replies to Prime Communications, LLC's (the "Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim") Counterclaim as follows:

1. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim admits the allegations set forth in this paragraph.
2. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim admits the allegations set forth in this paragraph.

3. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim admits the allegations set forth in this paragraph.

**COUNT I**

(Negligence in administering contract and making payments)

4. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim hereby repeats its answers to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1-3 of the Counterclaim, as though fully set forth herein.

5. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim denies the allegations set forth in this paragraph. Answering further, ATC denies that it made any payments to JLB and denies that it owed a duty of care.

6. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim denies the allegations set forth in this paragraph.

7. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim denies the allegations set forth in this paragraph.

**COUNT II**

(Negligence in providing materials)

8. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim hereby repeats its answers to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1-7 of the Counterclaim, as though fully set forth herein.

9. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim denies the allegations set forth in this paragraph.

10. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim denies the allegations set forth in this paragraph.

11. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim denies the allegations set forth in this paragraph.

**COUNT III**  
(Breach of third-party beneficiary contract)

12. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim hereby repeats its answers to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1-11 of the Counterclaim, as though fully set forth herein.

13. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim admits in part and denies in part. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim admits that it entered into a contract with JLB. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim denies that it was obligated to submit any payment directly to any subcontractor of JLB. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim further states that under its contract with JLB, satisfaction of certain enumerated criteria was required prior to the delivery of any payment to JLB by the Defendant-in-Counterclaim.

14. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim denies the allegations set forth in this paragraph.

15. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim denies the allegations set forth in this paragraph.

16. The Defendant-in-Counterclaim denies the allegations set forth in this paragraph.

### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

And further answering the Defendant Prime's Counterclaim, pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 8(c), the Defendant-in-Counterclaim American Tower Corporation, asserts the following defenses to the relief requested:

#### **FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Counterclaim fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, and, therefore, should be dismissed in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 12(b)(6).

#### **SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim is barred from recovery because it has failed to take reasonable steps to mitigate the damages complained of under its Counterclaim.

#### **THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim is barred from recovery because there is an absence of consideration for its alleged third-party beneficiary status from the contract between ATC and JLB that is the subject of this litigation.

#### **FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim is barred from recovery because the Defendant-in-Counterclaim's conduct was lawful, justified and privileged.

#### **FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim may not recover from the Defendant-in-Counterclaim because the Defendant-in-Counterclaim did not owe a duty of care.

#### **SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim is barred from recovery because of the

Statute of Frauds.

**SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim is barred from recovery because the contract that is the subject of this litigation precluded the Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim from its right to file Mechanic's Liens and the Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim breached said contract.

**EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim is barred from recovery because of contributory negligence.

**NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Plaintiff-in-Counterclaim is barred from recovery because of the doctrines of estoppel, laches and waiver.

**TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Defendant-in-Counterclaim reserves its right to supplement this statement of affirmative defenses after it has had an opportunity to complete discovery.

**WHEREFORE**, the Defendant-in-Counterclaim requests the Court grant judgment in favor of the Defendant-in-Counterclaim and grant such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

**THE DEFENDANT-IN-COUNTERCLAIM CLAIMS A JURY TRIAL ON ALL ISSUES SO TRIABLE.**

Respectfully submitted,  
AMERICAN TOWER  
CORPORATION,  
By its attorneys,

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